



## Colville National Forest

765 South Main St., Colville, WA 99114 OR [www.fs.usda.gov/colville](http://www.fs.usda.gov/colville)

Contact: Franklin Pemberton, 509.684.7177

July 19, 2012

### *Colville National Forest to Provide the 2013 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree*

**Colville, WA –** The Colville National Forest is pleased to announce that it has been selected to provide the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree in 2013. The “People’s Tree” will come from the picturesque Colville National Forest, and will grace the lawn of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C during 2013 holiday season.

"This is a great honor for the State of Washington and especially our eastside communities. This is the first time a Capitol Christmas Tree has come from the east side of the state and we are honored to provide Washington’s gift to the American people," said Colville National Forest Supervisor Laura Jo West. Over the next 16 months, the Colville National Forest will be inviting Washingtonians, elected officials, schools and civic organizations to get involved in preparing the Capitol Christmas Tree for delivery to the nation’s capital.

This year’s 2012 Capitol Christmas Tree will come from the White River National Forest in Colorado. After a celebratory cutting ceremony this November, the tree will tour Colorado, stopping at various towns for celebrations before making its way across the country to the nation’s capital. Upon its arrival in Washington, D.C., the tree will be decorated and then lit by the Speaker of the House and one lucky child from Colorado. “The involvement of our communities, particularly families and children is the most exciting aspect of this great project,” said West.

Details of the 2013 Capitol Christmas Tree project are still being developed. For more information, please contact Jennifer Knutson, Capitol Christmas Tree Coordinator, Colville National Forest (509) 684-7000.

**-END-**